



National Coal Heritage Area

West Virginia

Authorized November 12, 1996

Years since Designation

1996

2002

Management Entity State of West Virginia (Divisions of Tourism, Culture & History)

Management Plan Status completed plan awaiting approval

Square Mileage of Counties in Heritage Area 5,256

2000 Census Data

Data	2000 Census	Percent Change from 1990
<i>Total Population</i>	487,000	-4.4
<i>Persons under 18 Years, Percent</i>	22.1	-15.8
<i>Persons 25-44 Years, Percent</i>	27.3	-8.2
<i>Persons Over 65 Years, Percent</i>	15.5	+8.0
<i>White Alone, Percent</i>	94.1	-8
<i>Hispanic Origin, Percent</i>	0.6	+11
<i>Black or African American, Percent</i>	4.1	-11.3
<i>Median Household Income (2000 \$)</i>	n/a	n/a
<i>Percent Unemployed</i>	n/a	n/a
<i>Percent Below Poverty Level</i>	n/a	n/a



The cultural geography here has been profoundly influenced over the last 125 years by the pervasive role of the coal mines. The communities in these 11 counties in southern West Virginia reflect their origins as “company towns” formed by local traditions, waves of immigrant workers, and the dominance of the mining companies. Ethnic neighborhoods and the physical infrastructure of the mines are still clearly seen throughout the region.

Resources Profile

<i>Number of National Register Properties</i>	64
<i>Number of National Historic Landmarks</i>	2
<i>National Natural Landmarks</i>	0
<i>National Park Units</i>	1

Congressional Districts 1

Local Government Units 175

Contact Information

National Coal Heritage Area

1900 Kanawha Blvd., East

Charleston, WV 25305

tel. 304-558-0220 x148 | fax 304-558-2779

jeff.harpold@wvculture.org

<http://www.coalheritage.org>